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which proceeds from your dim lamps, the thickness of the atmosphere, the sound of the workmen's hammers, and the sulphureous smell of the gunpowder, might well have furnished the poets with new images for their descents to *Avernus*. After viewing the works, and conversing with the workmen, who are very civil, you return in the same way you entered, and will be apt to feel no slight pleasure at again beholding the cheering beams of the sun.

BASALTICK COLUMNS.

On the west side of Mount Holyoke,* three miles from Northampton, is a series of basaltick columns, in some measure like those of the celebrated Giant's Causeway, in Ireland. They form the side of the mountain for a distance of ten or twelve rods, and vary in height from sixty to more than a hundred feet. Their course inclines a little from the perpendicular, sloping gently towards the mountain.

These pillars are uniformly hexagonal prisms, varying in regularity, their sides being from eight to thirty inches wide. The diameters of the different prisms are from two to four feet. In some parts, several ranges of columns appear to have been broken away; for the hill below seems composed almost entirely of their fragments. The forms of the fragments bear no direct resemblance to the original columns, but are mostly small rhomboidal prisms, with irregular terminations.

In one place for a length of about twenty feet, ten distinct ranges of columns may be seen projecting above, attached by their sides to the ranges within, whose lower portions are gone, while corresponding stumps (if they may be so called) are visible among the rubbish below. Four of these projecting ranges are only about fifteen feet above

* Mount Holyoke is a part of a range of mountains, that extends from the vicinity of New-Haven, in a north-easterly direction, into Massachusetts, and crosses Connecticut River between Easthampton and South-Hadley, when it takes the name above-mentioned. Nearly opposite Northampton, there is a high peak of this mountain, which commands a very extensive view of the surrounding country, and is a very frequent and fashionable resort for parties of pleasure and curiosity.

It is to be observed, that the measures and distances mentioned in the above article, are not given from actual measurement, but from the judgment of the writer. Being only on a short visit to that part of the country, he regrets that it was not in his power to collect materials for a more complete account of that interesting object of curiosity.

the tops of their stumps ; and there is one column of which a space of only a foot in length is broken out. The lower extremities of the upper portions are uniformly *convex*, and the upper ends of the lower portions as uniformly *concave* ; so that if it were possible to suppose they might slide down from their attachments, they appear as if they might fit pretty exactly.

This part of the mountain is covered with trees and shrubs, wherever there is room between the rocks for a tree to grow.

FOR THE NORTH-AMERICAN JOURNAL.

Edinburgh, 1814.

MANY of the bootmakers, tailors, and others of the useful and elegant arts in Edinburgh have on their signs, 'from such a street, London;' all which, in my humble opinion, proves much better than the best marshaller of syllogisms could do in ten tomes, that in respect to fashion, Edinburgh is a tributary province of the south. This is precisely, however, what was seen in London seventy or eighty years ago, when the oracle of the 'supreme bon ton' was fixed at Paris, by the consent of all the nations of Europe ; and to this day, I am told, there is still to be seen in some obscure part of London, one of these signs, which probably, in the beginning of the last century, had considerable influence at the lady mayores's ball ; it is, *Juan Baptista somebody de rue de Richelieu à Paris, tient magasin de corbeilles de mariage, de Baptêmes, eau de Perse pour teindre les cheveux en noir, lait Arabique pour les taches de rousseur, eau de Venus pour oter les rides, gratelangues*, &c. all in French, which, no doubt, according to the well known proverb often made the perfumer's chattels pass '*pro magnifico*.' And often have the wise sojourners under * Bow bell stopt and stared at this unknown writing on the wall, and, shrewd as they are at diving into the secrets of nature, without once suspecting the mystical charms which the words contained. But it is not the bootmakers alone who condescend to 'boo to the great man

* Bow Church is a large church in Cheapside, and, properly speaking, all those who live within the sound of the bell, are the genuine original cockneys ; this therefore is classical ground. But from the contagious fascination of their manners, this elegant tribe have already spread itself far and wide, into other quarters and other cities.